This year was great for **shorts**. Whether you were learning about the **most dangerous sport on earth**, what it's like to be **stuck in prison**, or what it'd feel like to be part of a **deadly Western joke**, there was something for everyone. Presented below is a roundup of some of my favorite short movies from 2014. This list includes older films as long as they were released online this year, and it doesn't include any titles that have already been highlighted in my weekly *I'm Short, Not Stupid* column.

Let the short film screening party begin!

**Eager** by Allison Schulnik

Flowers and blades of grass dance a dark and twisted ballet in *Eager*, a short animated film where mutated horses and wispy ghost women join the plants. Watching these creatures transform, blossom, grow, die, and regenerate in clay is like sliding comfortably through an enlightening acid trip. Its morphing colors and choreographed clay shapes and figures are inexplicably beautiful and set to an excellent score by Aaron M. Olson. Artist and animator Allison Schulnik, perhaps best known for her [Grizzly Bear music video](#), has created her most stunning and mature work yet.